

# Forest Preserve Detailed Project Work Plan

Fiscal Year 2023-2024

Project # 2024-ORDA-002; COWP 335

<u>Region</u>	<u>Project Title</u>
5	Easy Street Widening

<u>Project Type</u>	<u>Town(s)</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Management Unit</u>
Modification of Existing Facility	Wilmington	Essex	Whiteface Mountain Intensive Use Area

### **Description of Desired Condition(s) for Project:**

The 2018 UMP for Whiteface Mountain approved Easy Street widening in Section IV-2d “Widen Easy Street”. Please find this referenced language attached to this application. The Easy Street trail will be expanded to cater to skiers with different skill levels. The decision to expand the trail aims to create a safer and more pleasurable experience for beginner skiers.

### **Description of Project Specifications:**

Please see the highlighted portion in Figure 7, attached to this application, showing the location of Easy Street on the mountain. The project will require tree clearing and minor regrading. Please see tree count attached to this application.

### **Description of Measures Taken to Avoid, Mitigate and Minimize Impacts to Natural Resources:**

It is essential to remove trees to expand the Easy Street trail to a width of 100 to 120 feet. This project will not have any negative impact on wetlands or water bodies. Furthermore, the project will not harm rare, threatened, or endangered species. The project will adhere to the best management practices under NYS erosion and sediment control guidelines as designed and included in the stormwater pollution prevention plan.

### **Analysis of Project Location and Design Alternatives:**

The Easy Street improvements will offer a safer and more accessible experience for novice skiers to navigate down the mountain. This project was developed as part of the 2018 UMP for Whiteface Mountain and determined to be the proper solution for this trail, located in the trail system serviced by Lift E.

### **Description of Use of Motorized Equipment and/or Motor Vehicles, if any:**

To effectively expand Easy Street, we will use motorized equipment: chainsaws, excavators, bulldozers, skidders, track drills, and UTVs.

### **Description of Applicable Standards for Accessibility by People with Disabilities:**

Whiteface Mountain provides many opportunities for adaptive winter recreation at the mountain. Instructors are trained in adaptive winter recreation practices.

### **Other Relevant Considerations:**

This project is not above 2800 feet in elevation and will not impact the Bicknell’s Thrush. This project is not within a half a mile of the West Branch Au Sable River, and will not require a Wild, Scenic and Recreational Rivers Act Permit.

**Prepared by (Name & Title):**

Emma Lamy,  
Sustainability & Environmental Compliance Officer

**Date:** 2/13/2024

**Phone:** (518) 302-5314

**Approvals:**  
4/19/2024

**Comments:**



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Regional Program Manager

**Date:** [Click to enter a date.](#)



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Regional Director

**Date:** 6/25/2024



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Division Director

**Date:** 6/12/2024.

**REGULATORY CLEARANCE CHECKLIST – STATE LANDS and CONSERVATION EASEMENT PROJECTS**

PROGRAM	PERMIT	REQUIRED		SECURED BY	COMMENTS
		YES	NO	(NAME)	
Air Resources	Restricted Burning	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Mineral Resources	Mining	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Materials Management	Solid Waste Mgt. Fac.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Water	Dam Safety Review	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
	Const. in Flood Hazard	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
	Public Water Supply	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
	SPDES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Spills Management	Petro. Bulk Storage	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Lands and Forests	Unit Management Plan	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
	Tree Cutting	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	Protected Native Plants	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
	Historic Preservation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Fish and Wildlife	Freshwater Wetlands	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
	Wild Scenic & Rec. River	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Compliance Services	Other Protection of Waters	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
	EAF	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
	Negative Declaration	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
	Env. Impact Statement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
	Water Quality Cert.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
DEC (other)	CP-17	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
	Commissioner (aircraft, motorized equipment)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
	Flight Request	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
	Contract Clearance Sh.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
	DOB Exemption	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Other Agencies	APA MOU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
	APA Wetlands Permit	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
	Corps. of Engineers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
	Building Permits	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
	Local Permits	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
	Easements	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
	Highway Enter DOT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
	Wastewater Disposal	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### I. INTRODUCTION

This 2018 Unit Management Plan (UMP) Amendment for Whiteface Mountain Intensive Use Area has been prepared in accordance with the Adirondack Park State Land Master Plan (APSLMP or SLMP), addresses changes to the 1996 UMP Update and the 2004 UMP Update and Amendment thereto, and adds several new management actions. This 2018 UMP Amendment reviews the status of the 1987, 1996, 2004 and 2006 management actions and identifies those management actions that have been completed, those that are pending, and those that are to be modified or abandoned through this 2018 UMP Amendment. Previous UMP documents are incorporated by reference into this document.

Section 816 of the Adirondack Park Agency Act directs the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) to develop, in consultation with the New York State Adirondack Park Agency (APA), UMPs for each unit of land under its jurisdiction classified in the APSLMP. Concurrent with the development of UMPs is the preparation of a Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS), which analyzes the significant impacts and alternatives related to each UMP. The Olympic Regional Development Authority (ORDA), pursuant to its enabling law and agreement with the NYSDEC for the management of Whiteface Ski Center, has prepared this UMP Amendment in cooperation with DEC and in consultation with APA.

### II. 2018 UMP AMENDMENT MANAGEMENT ACTIONS

New management actions are identified and analyzed in this 2018 UMP Amendment. The potential environmental impacts and the attendant proposed mitigation measures for any new or modified management actions are also identified and discussed. The potential impacts and the identified mitigation measures for the previously approved UMP management actions remain in effect and will not be repeated here, but are incorporated by reference.

The following lists the New Management Actions that are the subject of this UMP Amendment and that can be undertaken after the UMP Amendment is adopted. See **Figure ES-1, 2018 Master Plan – Proposed & Previously Approved Actions.**

#### New Downhill Trails and Lifts

- Extend Bear Den’s lift (Bunny Hutch or Lift C), with related trail work
- Widen Easy Way
- Widen Brookside
- Widen Easy Street
- Widen Upper Boreen
- Widen Boreen Loop
- Widen Parkway Exit
- Widen Drapers Drop
- Construct New Intermediate Trail 12a on Little Whiteface

The following trail widening is also proposed in this area:

- Bobcat – skiers’ right from Boreen to Loon, skier’s left above and below Bobcat Chute, and skier’s left below Bobcat Chute. Widen to between 70 to 120 feet to improve connection to Boreen and beginner skiability.
  - Flying Squirrel – widen to +/- 100 feet on skier’s right for most of its length and then skier’s left at the Otter intersection.
  - Runner Up – widen the narrow connector between Boreen and Moose to improve the connection.
  - Moose – widen both sides in upper section, skier’s left below Runner Up, and Skier’s left before Bobcat to achieve 100 to 120 feet for improved beginner skiability.
  - Porcupine Pass – widen where possible to improve skiability and connection from Learning Area and Base Area.
  - Learning Area- widen learning area to improve fall line and expand learn-to-ski area and operations. The existing surface lift (Cub Carpet, lift J) will be slightly relocated and a second surface conveyor lift (Lift L) would be added.
  - Bottom of Bobcat to Moose Connection – a new trail (90) that will avoid/eliminate the existing flat portion of Moose and improve beginner skiability.
  - Learning Area to Base Connection – a new trail (91) will be constructed to provide a better connection from the Learning Area to the Base Area. This connection will be less steep than the only current connection (Porcupine Pass). This trail will include a skier bridge over the brook above the NYSEF building.
  - Bear Den Lodge to Base Area Connection – another new trail (92) will provide a ski connection from the Bear Den Lodge and use the same bridge that carries trail 91 over the brook by NYSEF.
- a. Widen Easy Way  
This trail will be widened to approximately 80 feet to improve beginner skiability.
- b. Widen Brookside  
Widen to up to 120 feet to improve beginner skiability.
- c. **Widen Easy Street**  
Widen to between 100 to 120 feet to improve beginner skiability.
- d. Widen Upper Boreen

This trail is currently less than 30 feet wide. Widen to between 40 to 100 feet where terrain allows.

**Whiteface Tree Cutting Areas by Management Action Types**

Management Action	Trail/Lift	Name / Description	Length (Linear Feet)	Clearing (SF)	Clearing (Ac)	Closest Transect
<b>Proposed Downhill Trails</b>						
	88	New Trail	670	80,400	1.8	3
	89	New Trail	1,030	123,600	2.8	3
	90	New Trail	408	48,960	1.1	3
	91	New Trail	545	34,316	0.8	2
	92	New Trail	970	64,280	1.5	2
	12a	New Trail	1,060	110,000	2.5	4
	<b>Totals</b>			<b>461,556</b>	<b>10.6</b>	

<b>Proposed Trail Widening</b>						
	45	Easy Way		7,003	0.2	4
	26	Easy Street		51,387	1.2	4
	46	Upper Boreen		25,271	0.6	4
	82	Boreen Loop		23,192	0.5	4
	72	Parkway Exit		46,624	1.1	4
	71	Draper's Drop		29,100	0.7	4
	34	Bobcat		46,396	1.1	2
	36	Flying Squirrel		47,000	1.1	3
	42	Runner Up		11,000	0.3	2
	43	Moose		55,610	1.3	2
	37	Porcupine pass		11,750	0.3	2
	-	Learning Area		46,646	1.1	2
	<b>Totals</b>			<b>400,979</b>	<b>9.2</b>	

<b>Lifts</b>						
	Lift B	Bear Lift		115,521	2.7	4
	Lift C	Bunny Hutch		70,710	1.6	3
	Lift I	Freeway		91,410	2.1	4
	<b>Totals</b>			<b>277,641</b>	<b>6.4</b>	

**Whiteface Tree Cutting By Nearest Tree Cruise Transect**

Nearest Transect #	Management Action	Trail Pod #	Name / Description	Length* (Linear Feet)	Clearing (SF)	Clearing (Ac)
<b>2</b>		91	New Trail	545	34,316	0.8
		92	New Trail	970	64,280	1.5
	Widen	34	Bobcat		46,396	1.1
	Widen	42	Runner Up		11,000	0.3
	Widen	43	Moose		55,610	1.3
	Widen	37	Porcupine pass		11,750	0.3
	Widen	-	Learning Area		46,646	1.1
			TOTAL		269,998	

<b>3</b>		88	New Trail	670	80,400	1.8
		89	New Trail	1,030	123,600	2.8
		90	New Trail	408	48,960	1.1
	Widen	36	Flying Squirrel		47,000	1.1
		Lift C	Bunny hutch		70,710	1.6
			TOTAL		370,670	











<b>4</b>		12a	New Trail	1,060	110,000	2.5
	Widen	45	Easy Way		7,003	0.2
	Widen	26	Easy Street		51,387	1.2
	Widen	46	Upper Boreen		25,271	0.6
	Widen	82	Boreen loop		23,192	0.5
	Widen	72	Parkway Exit		46,624	1.1
	Widen	71	Draper's Drop		29,100	0.7
		Lift B	Bear Lift		115,521	2.7
		Lift I	Freeway		91,410	2.1
			TOTAL		499,508	

Whiteface Tree Cutting for Transect 4 Areas

ACTION		New 12a	New 12a	Widen 45	Widen 45	Widen 26	Widen 26	Widen 46	Widen 46	Widen 82	Widen 82	Widen 72	Widen 72	Widen 71	Widen 71	Lift B	Lift B	Lift I	Lift I			
TOTAL SF		110000	110000	7003	7003	51387	51387	25271	25271	23192	23192	46624	46624	29100	29100	115251	115251	94410	94410			
WHITEFACE SKI CENTER TREE SPECIES	PLOT 4 East of 24 Burtons Trail		SF/1000	110	110	7.003	7.003	51.387	51.387	25.271	25.271	23.192	23.192	46.624	46.624	29.1	29.1	115.251	115.251	94.41	94.41	
	3-4" DBH	> 4" DBH	3-4" DBH	> 4" DBH	3-4" DBH	> 4" DBH	3-4" DBH	> 4" DBH	3-4" DBH	> 4" DBH	3-4" DBH	> 4" DBH	3-4" DBH	> 4" DBH	3-4" DBH	> 4" DBH	3-4" DBH	> 4" DBH	3-4" DBH	> 4" DBH	3-4" DBH	> 4" DBH
BALSAM FIR																						
STRIPED MAPLE		1		110		7.003		51.387		25.271		23.192		46.624		29.1		115.251			94.91	
RED MAPLE																						
SUGAR MAPLE	5	6		550	660	35.015	42.018	256.935	308.322	126.355	151.626	115.96	139.152	233.12	279.744	145.5	174.6	576.255	691.506	472.05	308.322	
YELLOW BIRCH																						
MOUNTAIN PAPER BIRCH																						
PAPER BIRCH																						
BEECH	2	6		220	660	14.006	42.018	102.774	308.322	50.542	151.626	46.384	139.152	93.248	279.744	58.2	174.6	230.502	691.506	102.774	566.46	
WHITE ASH																						
IRONWOOD																						
RED SPRUCE																						
RED PINE																						
WHITE PINE																						
BIGTOOTH ASPEN																						
PIN CHERRY																						
MOUNTAIN ASH																						
NORTHERN WHITE CEDAR																						
OAK																						
HEMLOCK																						
TREE TOTALS	7	13		770	1430	49.021	91.039	359.709	668.031	176.897	328.523	162.344	301.496	326.368	606.112	203.7	378.3	806.757	1498.263	574.824	969.692	

TOTAL 3-4" DBH	3429.62
TOTAL >4" DBH	6271.456
TOTAL ALL	9701.076

**LEGEND**

-  EXISTING TRAILS
-  PROPOSED TRAILS
-  PROPOSED TRAIL WIDENING
-  EXISTING GLADES
-  EXISTING APPURTENANT CLEARING
-  EXISTING LIFTS
-  EXISTING LIFT TO BE REMOVED
-  PROPOSED LIFTS
-  LAND USE BOUNDARY
-  EXISTING BUILDING

